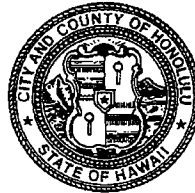


DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 Uluohia Street, Suite 309, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
Phone: (808) 768-3003 • Fax: (808) 768-3053
Website: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



LAURA H. THIELEN
DIRECTOR

MICHELE K. NEKOTA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 16, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 10 (2021) – Hanauma Bay fees

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) supports Bill 10 (2021), which will increase the fees at Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve. The increase in fees will support the goals and vision of DPR to do the following:

- Finalize and implement a strategic plan, which includes discussions between DPR staff, government partners, scientists, and community members.
- Establish a cap on total visitors allowed. This will assist the bay to naturally rehabilitate itself.
- Revitalize the education for all visitors.
- Work with scientists on improving education programs.
- Support coral and marine restoration efforts such as establishing a coral nursery, which can be a part of the education and restoration effort at the nature preserve.
- Implement capital improvements such as:
 - Re-roof the education building due to leaks
 - Replace the existing wastewater system, which will be costly due to the logistics of pumping waste from the lower area to the upper area.

DPR will focus on preservation, beautifying, and enhanced stewardship of the bay. Additionally, DPR plans to enhance the visitor experience with revitalized education and restorations programs.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of DPR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura H. Thielen".

Laura H. Thielen
Director

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Formby".

Michael D. Formby
Managing Director

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